



Proclamation

The State of Hawai‘i has been blessed with a vibrant ocean environment that provides many leisure opportunities for its people. For generations, recreational boating has been a favorite way to relax with family and friends and enjoy our ocean and inland waters.

Safe boating practices are extremely important to all citizens of Hawai‘i, as the lives of both boaters and non-boaters can be affected by accidents at sea. Each year, lives and property are needlessly lost in boating accidents, many of which result from a lack of basic knowledge of boating and ocean safety.

Numerous government agencies, private groups, and community organizations promote safe boating practices to educate vessel operators about ocean safety principles by offering safe boating courses, conducting search and rescue missions, examining boats for safety equipment and participating in other activities to keep Hawaiian waters safe. The U.S. Coast Guard, U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary, State Department of Land and Natural Resources and Honolulu Sail and Power Squadron offer valuable services to this end.

Each year, *National Safe Boating Week* is observed across the United States and Canada in order to save lives by spreading a message of boating safety and encouraging boater education. Important safe boating practices include:

- Knowing how to properly wear a life jacket;
- Carrying proper safety equipment on board a vessel, including a VHF radio or Emergency Position-Indicating Radio Beacons;
- Obtaining boating safety education;
- Having a Vessel Safety Check.

THEREFORE, I, LINDA LINGLE, Governor, and **I, JAMES R. “DUKE” AIONA, JR.**, Lieutenant Governor of the State of Hawai‘i, do hereby proclaim **May 19 through 25, 2007**, as

SAFE BOATING WEEK

in Hawai‘i, and strongly urge all citizens to employ safe boating practices in our waters.

DONE at the State Capitol, in the Executive Chambers, Honolulu, State of Hawai‘i, this second day of April 2007.

Linda Lingle
Governor, State of Hawai‘i

James R. “Duke” Aiona, Jr.
Lieutenant Governor, State of Hawai‘i